

Penn State New Kensington New Student Orientation



The Penn State New Kensington community welcomes you to new beginnings. As a new student you will find that becoming involved in campus-related activities dictates your happiness while in college. Becoming involved means meeting staff, faculty, and other students by participating in the numerous activities we have planned especially for you. These programs are planned to help new students adjust to college life and to get the most out of their entire Penn State experience!

New Student Orientation (NSO): A Three Day Experience

Academic Advising Day (students and parents): 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Starting late May through August 5

On the first day of orientation, Academic Advising Day, you will learn more about a Penn State degree, your academic interests and abilities, and what it takes to succeed academically at Penn State. During the afternoon, you will meet one-on-one with an academic advisor to discuss the above information and to plan your fall semester courses. You will also create a custom-made schedule with the help of your advisor and enroll in those courses. Additionally, all first year students will receive a copy of this year's selection for the First Year Summer Reading Program. While parents are not required to attend, a concurrent program has been designed with their transition needs in mind. All participants will learn more about campus resources and how to get involved at Penn State New Kensington. Orientation is mandatory for all new students.

Pride Day (students only): 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Week of August 15-19th

On Day 2, you become part of a campus tradition: Orientation Prides. Every new student is assigned to a pride group led by our new student orientation leaders. At orientation, you will attend interactive workshops conducted by faculty and professional staff to learn about academic procedures, electronic resources and more. Student leaders lead the Prides in small group exercises designed to increase interpersonal communication skills. A faculty led discussion on this year's summer reading selection is a part of Day 2.

All Prides Day (students only): 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Week of August 15-19th

This is the final preparation for your college career. You will have an opportunity to meet many of your fellow classmates and participate in academic success sessions. You receive your Pride T-shirt on this day. Activities include: **Academic Convocation, College Meetings, and the Pride Olympics!**

Special Populations Orientation Programs

International Student Orientation 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 16

In addition to academic advising and scheduling of courses, this program will cover topics that are important to new international students including: US Government Regulations and how they apply to students, international student health insurance requirements, maintaining full-time status, on-campus employment, and filing tax returns, as well as travel and re-entry from abroad during your program of study. All international students will meet with an academic advisor during the week of August 15-20, 2016, to schedule their classes. International students are **REQUIRED** to attend all New Student Orientation Programs.

Adult Learners, Veterans and Transfer Students Program 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 20

The Office of Student Affairs sponsors a special workshop session the Saturday before classes start for adults and students who are transferring into the University. You will meet with faculty and staff to discuss important topics such as academic success, enhancing study skills, how to juggle responsibilities, childcare, etc. Plus, this is a great time to learn your way around campus, take care of details, ask last minute questions and meet currently enrolled students.

Summer Checklist for New Students



Traditional Rainbow Picture

- Take your ALEKS placement exam.
- Activate Access Account Online (See your personal email for instructions)
- Attend all 3 New Student Orientation Days
- Get photo ID picture taken and receive student ID card
- Receive First Year Summer Reading Program book selection.
- Print out your class schedule.
- Check on-line to finalize your semester bill and confirm your registration.
- Complete an on-line immunization form.
- Get ready to **START CLASSES & HAVE A GREAT TIME!**

Orientation Questions? Call 724-334-6062 or email nkorientation@psu.edu
Visit our Website for more answers: www.nk.psu.edu/NSO

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register for New Student Orientation?

After you take your placement test you can register on-line for New Student Orientation at nk.psu.edu/NSO. Students are also sent information to their permanent home address. You can register today!

When do I schedule my classes?

Based on your placement test scores and the advice of your academic advisor during Day One of New Student Orientation, we will place you in the courses appropriate for your major and also in those courses specifically designed by faculty to meet the needs of first year students. For more information contact the Student Success Center at 724-334-6095.

How do I activate my computer Access Account online?

Students will receive their password through email prior to NSO Day One and should activate their accounts before attending New Student Orientation via Penn State's Electronic Account Activation at <http://identity.psu.edu>. You can also activate your Access Account in the Computer Center for the first time, a driver's license, state photo ID card, or passport must be presented to receive your access permission. If you have any questions about activating your account, please call the Computer Center Help Desk at 724-334-6081.

Do I have to attend New Student Orientation?

Yes, it is an expectation that all new students, regardless of their status, attend orientation. This is an extremely important step in your progress and success as a college student. At orientation, you will gain valuable information and have the opportunity to meet other students.

Can a new student schedule classes without taking the placement test?

An invitation to the meet with an advisor during Day One of orientation is triggered by the completion of the online placement test. No test, no schedule. Note: Students who meet the criteria as a returning adult learner or transfer student may have other requirements for course scheduling and should consult with admissions and their academic advisor.

How do I determine what books I need for my classes?

Your printed class schedule contains a specific course number. Those numbers correspond to books ordered by your instructors. Using the numbers, books can be purchased in the PSNK Bookstore or through a preferred vendor of choice.

Does being undecided delay my progress toward completing a major?

No, exploration for a semester or two does not delay entering a major. Be sure to contact Jim Shields in Career Services for help finding the right major for you. Email him at xjs8@psu.edu or call 724-334-6065.



Summer/Fall 2016 Welcome Activities

Summer Drive in Movies

June 1, July 13, August 10

Join us for these family friendly community movie nights with BBQ, snacks, and fun! Movies will start at dusk and movie selections can be found at www.nk.psu.edu/StudentLife

Pittsburgh Night Out

August 19

Come and join in as new students from Penn State New Kensington and Penn State Beaver enjoy a fun filled special night on the three rivers in Pittsburgh that may include a student boat cruise aboard the Gateway Clipper Fleet!

Welcome Week

August 22 - 26

Watch for more details on the crazy, packed full week of free food, giveaways and fun! See you the first week of classes.

Back to School Bash

August 31

Enjoy food at the all campus picnic, listen to the DJ and sign up for a variety of clubs, organizations, and activities!

Penn State in Pittsburgh!

Stop by the Office of Student Life to find out what exciting new events and activities are planned as part of the Penn State in Pittsburgh initiative. Trips to sporting events, theaters, city-center and more! Visit the PSU in Pittsburgh website for more information! www.nk.psu.edu/StudentLife45535



Contact Us

Academic Affairs

Dr. Andrea Adolph
724-334-6032

Admissions

Patricia Brady
724-334-6058

Advising

Sean Bridgen
724-334-6095

Financial Aid

Jennifer Marino
724-334-6047

Orientation Hotline

724-334-6062
nkorientation@psu.edu

Student Affairs

Theresa Bonk
724-334-6062



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